

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2657

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, CI
SUBJECT: CHILEAN PAROLE PROGRAM: DEMARCHE ON COMMUTATION OF
SENTENCES

1. A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE US HAVE OFFERED
RESETTLEMENT TO CHILEANS CONVICTED OF POLITICAL/SECURITY
OFFENSES WHOSE SENTENCES THE GOC HAS SO FAR REFUSED TO COMMUTE
INTO EXILE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE EMBASSIES OF EC AND A FEW
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE OFFICIALLY REQUESTED THE FON-
MINISTRY TO EFFECT SUCH COMMUTATIONS. WE HAVE TEN APPROVED
CASES OF OUR OWN IN THIS CATEGORY, AND THE AMBASSADOR PROPOSES
TO SEND THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO FONMIN CARVAJAL UNLESS THE
DEPARTMENT INDICATES IT OBJECTION BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK.

2. TEXT OF PROPOSED LETTER (COMPLIMENTARY PHRASES OMITTED):

"THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE US IMMIGRATION SERVICE HAVE
APPROVED THE ENTRANCE INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER OUR PAROLE
PROGRAM OF TEN PERSONS WHOSE APPLICATIONS TO THE GOC FOR
COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE AND EXILE DECREE ARE CURRENTLY BEING
CONSIDERED, OR WHOSE APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN DEFERRED OR REFUSED
BY THE COMISION DE INDULTOS. THEIR NAMES ARE ATTACHED. THESE
PERSONS ARE AWAITING THE APPROVAL OF YOUR GOVERNMENT TO
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PERMIT THEIR DEPARTURE TO THE UNITED STATES.

"IN ALL THESE CASES, THE U.S. EMBASSY HAS CONDUCTED STRINGENT
SECURITY CHECKS, USING INTER ALIA DATA PROVIDED BY CHILEAN
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE MAY NOT BE FULLY
INFORMED WITH RESPECT TO ALL THE RELEVANT CIRCUMSTANCES IN

EVERY CASE. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS THE JUDGMENT OF OUR AUTHORITIES THAT THE ENTRY OF THESE PERSONS INTO THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT ENDANGER THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE GOC WOULD TAKE THIS ELEMENT INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE RELEASE AND DEPARTURE OF THE PERSONS CONCERNED WOULD IMPAIR THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF CHILE.

"AS YOU KNOW, THE DECISION LAST MONTH OF THE GOC TO RELEASE VIRTUALLY ALL THE INDIVIDUALS DETAINED WITHOUT CHARGE UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S EMERGENCY AUTHORITY WAS WIDELY REGARDED IN THE U.S. AS A POSITIVE STEP. ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY NOT OF THE SAME MAGNITUDE, A DECISION BY THE GOC TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTURE OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN WHOM THE U.S. IS INTERESTED WOULD DOUBTLESS ALSO BE FAVORABLY REGARDED.

"WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE IT IF THE GOC WOULD GIVE RENEWED CONSIDERATION TO THE CASES OF THE INDIVIDUALS NAMED ON THE ATTACHED LIST, WITH A VIEW TO PERMITTING AS MANY AS POSSIBLE TO PROCEED TO THE UNITED STATES."
POPPER

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